

## C600 Standard Mail

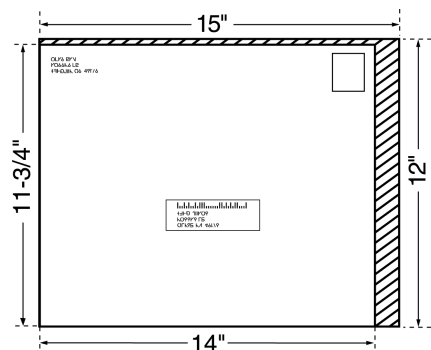
**Summary** C600 describes the basic dimension standards and weight limits for Standard Mail.

### 1.0 DIMENSIONS

**Basic Standards** These standards apply to Standard Mail:

- 1.1
- Each piece must weigh less than 16 ounces. Lower limits apply to pieces mailing at automation rates.
  - Presorted rate pieces are subject only to the basic mailability standards in [C010](#).
  - ECR pieces mailed at high-density and saturation letter rates must meet the standards for automation-compatible mail in [C810](#) and barcoding in [C840](#).
  - Automation rate pieces are subject to the size and weight limits in [C810](#) (letters) or [C820](#) (flats).
  - Except for automation basic carrier route rate pieces and merchandise samples mailed with detached address labels (DALs), the maximum size for Enhanced Carrier Route Standard Mail is 14 inches long, 11-3/4 inches high, and 3/4 inch thick (see [Exhibit 1.1e](#)). Merchandise samples whose dimensions exceed these maximums may be sent at the Enhanced Carrier Route rates if mailed using DALs, provided that the samples meet all other applicable standards and the DALs meet the standards in [A060](#).

**Maximum Dimensions  
for Standard Mail  
Flats**  
Exhibit 1.1e



Measure (Maximums)	Enhanced CR Rates	Other Std. Mail
Height	11-3/4"	12"
Length	14"	15"
Thickness	3/4"	3/4"
Weight	Less than 16 ounces	Less than 16 ounces

### Cover Page and Protective Cover

- 1.2 If the piece is not completely enclosed in a mailing wrapper, then any protective cover or cover page must cover both the front and back of the host publication and extend to within at least 3/4 inch of the edge opposite the fold or binding.

*Exception:* Flat-size pieces may have short covers as provided in [C820.6.2](#).

### 2.0 RESIDUAL SHAPE SURCHARGE

Mail that is prepared as a parcel or is not letter-size or flat-size as defined in [C050](#) is subject to a residual shape surcharge. There is one surcharge for Presorted rate pieces and a different surcharge for Enhanced Carrier Route rate pieces.

### 3.0 NONMACHINABLE PIECES

Letter-size pieces that weigh 3.3 ounces or less and meet one or more of the nonmachinable characteristics in [C050.2.2](#) may be subject to the nonmachinable surcharge (see [E620](#)).

**4.0 POSTAL INSPECTION**

Standard Mail is not sealed against postal inspection. Standard Mail may be prepared for automated processing but must allow easy examination.

**5.0 ENCLOSURES**

Envelopes and cards enclosed in automation Standard Mail are subject to the corresponding standards in [C810](#).